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REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION	Application #	10/646,000
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	First Inventor	Book, Michael L.
	Art Unit	3662
	Examiner	B. Andrea
	Docket #	MFS-31785-1

Commissioner for Patents
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S I R:

Responsive to the Office Action mailed on October 5, 2004, reconsideration of the rejection of the claims set forth therein is respectfully solicited for the reasons which follow.

Claims 1-5, 12-17 and 23-25 have been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over a combination of three references, viz., the Phillips et al ("Phillips"), Clendenin et al ("Clendenin") and McCusker et al ("McCusker") patents. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

In general, in accordance with one aspect of the present invention, digital signal processing (DSP) techniques are employed in combination with high speed digitizers and low speed optical signals to enable a basic video guidance system to measure the time of flight to targets even when the video guidance system can only image the target as a single spot.

Turning to the references, Phillips uses a complex optical modulator and a heterodyne detector to provide "matched filter cross-correlation of light pulse waveforms that have multiple, simultaneous frequency components with phase variation and incommensurate spectral frequency spacing between frequency components" (see the Abstract of the Disclosure). The Phillips patent states that the primary function is to "generate and emit pulses of laser light in a beam 80 directed towards an object or target T and then to receive reflections 84 of emitted light back from the object or target T in a form that can be compared to the optical characteristics of the emitted beam 80 for deriving target range (distance) information or target velocity information, or both range and velocity information simultaneously" (see column 5, lines 55-63). The Phillips